

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing and/or
2 treating peptic ulcer, comprising:

3 (i) an effective amount of American ginseng and/or the
4 extract thereof; and

5 (ii) a physiologically or pharmaceutically acceptable
6 carrier or excipient.

1 2. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said American ginseng is *Panax quinquefolium* L..

1 3. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with a
3 solvent having a polarity higher than 0.88.

4 4. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3,
5 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with 10%
6 ~ 80% ethanol aqueous solution.

1 5. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with
3 water.

1 6. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with
3 water or 10% ~ 80% ethanol aqueous solution, centrifuged,
4 and filtered through an ultrafiltration membrane with
5 molecular weight cut off 1,000 to give a retentate
6 containing substances with molecular weight greater than

7 1,000 dalton, and the retentate being concentrated to give
8 an extract I. *B*

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1 7. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with
3 water or 10% ~ 80% ethanol aqueous solution, centrifuged,
4 and filtered through an ultrafiltration membrane with
5 molecular weight cut off 1,000 to give a filtrate containing
6 substances with molecular weight less than 1,000 dalton, the
7 filtrate being concentrated to dry, added ethanol solution
8 to dissolve said substances, filtered said ethanol solution
9 to obtain a soluble portion, added said soluble portion into
10 said extract I as claimed in claim 6 to obtain a mixture,
11 and concentrated said mixture to give the extract II.

1 8. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with
3 water or 10% ~ 80% ethanol aqueous solution, centrifuged,
4 filtered through an ultrafiltration membrane with molecular
5 weight cut off 3,000 to give a retentate containing
6 substances with molecular weight greater than 3,000 dalton,
7 and the retentate being concentrated to give an extract III.

1 9. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with
3 water or 10% ~ 80% ethanol aqueous solution, centrifuged,
4 filtered through an ultrafiltration membrane with molecular
5 weight cut off 3,000 to give a filtrate containing
6 substances with molecular weight less than 3,000 dalton, the
7 filtrate being loaded onto a reverse phase column, eluted
8 with water, followed by ethanol solution and collected the

9 eluate, and then the 95% ethanol is combined with said
10 extract III in claim 8 and concentrated to give extract IV.

1 10. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said American ginseng extract is extracted with 30%
3 ~ 90% ethanol aqueous solution followed by filtration and
4 concentration to give extract V.

11. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,
2 wherein said peptic ulcer is a gastric ulcer or duodenal
3 ulcer.

1 12. A process of preparing an American ginseng extract
2 for preventing and/or treating peptic ulcers, comprising the
3 steps of:

4 (a) extracting American ginseng with a solvent with a
5 polarity higher than 0.88 to obtain an extract;

6 (b) filtering said extract to obtain a filtrate; and

7 (c) centrifuging said filtrate and collecting the
8 supernatant to give the total extract.

1 13. The process according to claim 12, further
2 comprising the step of ultrafiltrating said total extract to
3 give a retentate and a filtrate.

1 14. The process according to claim 13, wherein said
2 ultrafiltrating is a step in which said total extract is
3 filtered by means of an ultrafiltration membrane with
4 molecular weight cut off 1,000 or 3,000 to remove smaller
5 molecules.

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1 15. The process according to claim 12, further
2 comprising the step of dialyzing said total extract.

1 16. The process according to claim 15, wherein said
2 dialyzing is a step in which said total extract is dialyzed
3 by means of a dialysis membrane with molecular weight cut
4 off 500 to remove smaller molecules.

1 17. The process according to claim 13, further
2 comprising a precipitating step in which said filtrate is
3 concentrated to dry and then dissolved with 50% ~ 100%
4 ethanol to obtain the soluble portion.

1 18. The process according to claim 13, further
2 comprising the step of performing reverse phase
3 chromatography of said filtrate.

1 19. The process according to claim 18, wherein said
2 reverse phase chromatography is performing with a reverse
3 phase polyaromatic resin column.

1 20. The process according to claim 12, wherein said
2 American ginseng extract is extracted with 10% ~ 80% ethanol
3 aqueous solution.

1 21. The process according to claim 12, wherein said
2 American ginseng extract is extracted with water.

1 ~~22~~. A method for preventing and/or treating a patient
2 suffering from peptic ulcer, comprising administrating an

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- 3 effective amount of American ginseng and/or the extracts
- 4 thereof to said patient.



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